

Co-Created Volunteer Monitoring Approach



Dickinson

JULIE VASTINE
ALLIANCE FOR AQUATIC
RESOURCE MONITORING

ALLARM Background



- Empower communities with scientific tools to monitor, protect, and restore Pennsylvania streams.



Educate. Engage. Empower.

PA Volunteer Monitoring



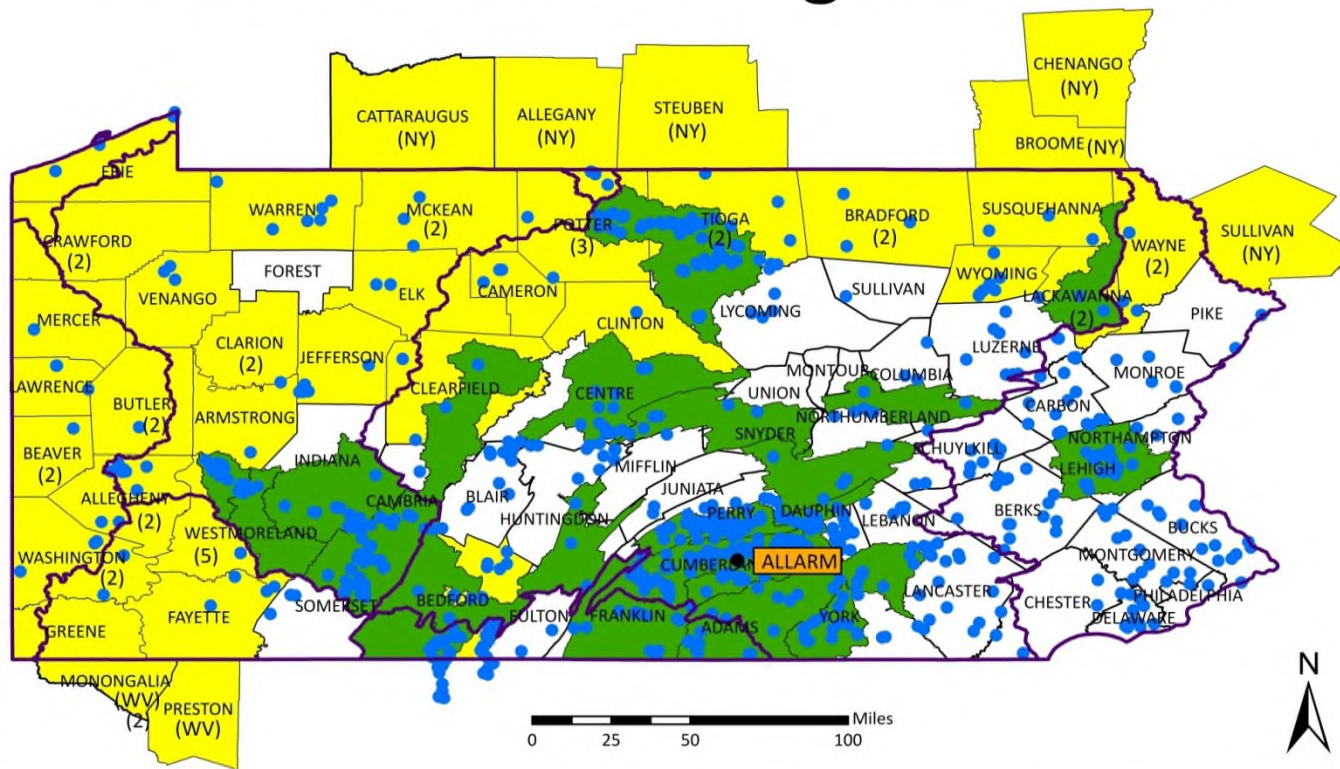
- Rich history



ALLARM History



ALLARM Monitoring Assistance



Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring
Environmental Studies Department
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013-2896

www.dickinson.edu/ALLARM
ALLARM@dickinson.edu
717.245.1565

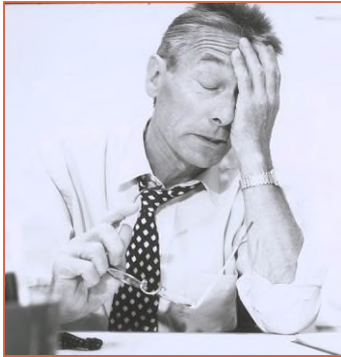


March 2014

- Acid Rain Sites
- Traditional Technical Assistance
- Shale Gas Workshops
- 6 Major PA Watersheds

Data Sources: ALLARM, NYS Office of Cyber Security, PA DOT, PSU, USGS, WVDEP

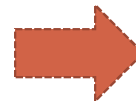
ALLARM Co-Created Approach: Lots of Mentoring!



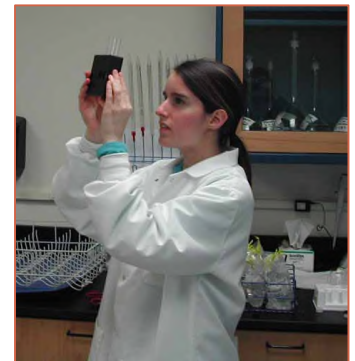
Community
Concern



Technical Assistance
(ALLARM)



Monitoring trainings



Data collection &
quality verification



Data interpretation

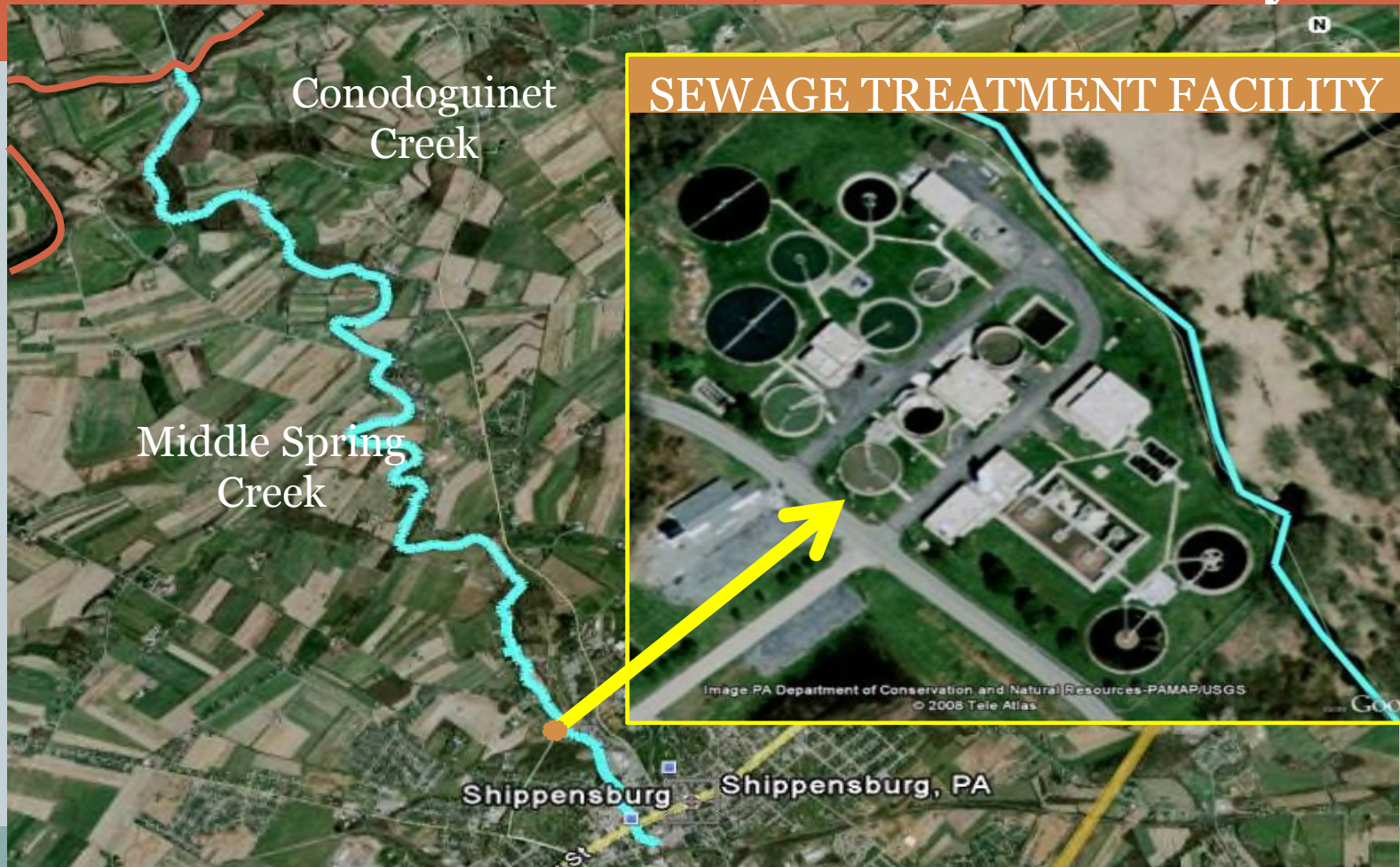


Communities use data to
protect and restore
streams

Example: Middle Spring Watershed Association

Watershed Issue

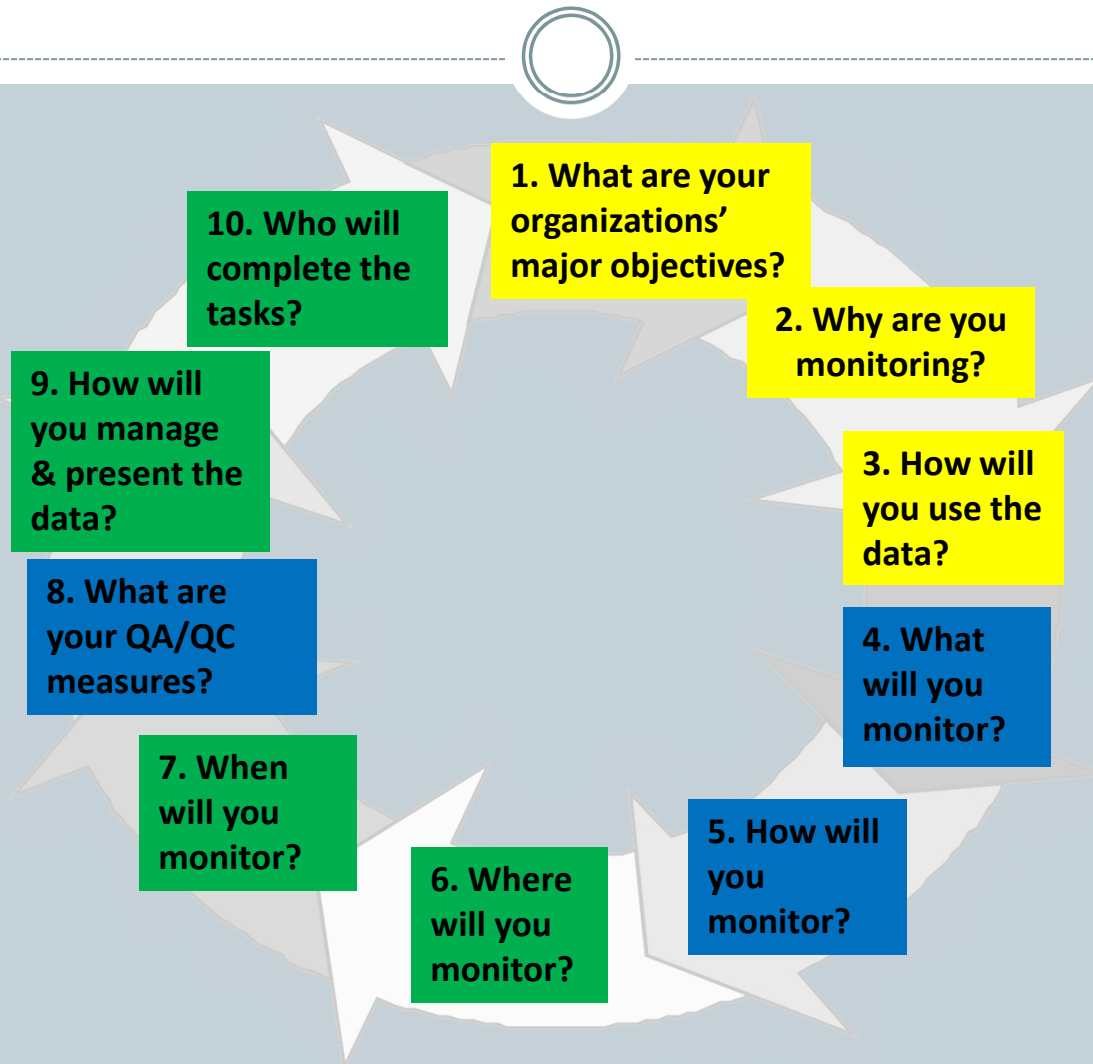
**Using Data in the
Community**



Step 1: Study Design

Issues:

- STP
- Stormwater
- Ag



Step 2: Build Capacity



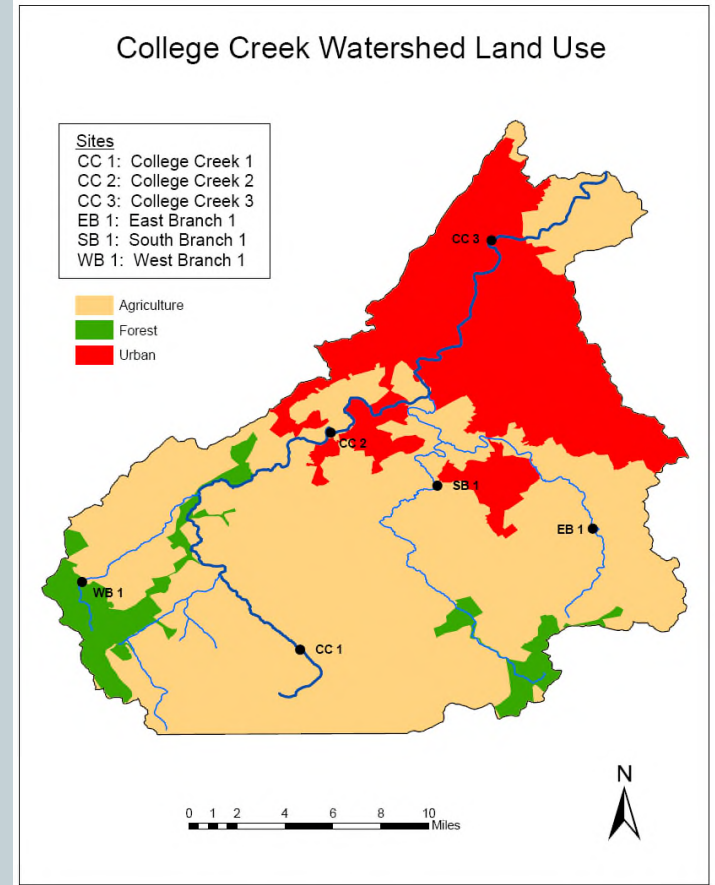
Step 3: Verify the quality of the data



- Split sample quality assurance process



Step 4: Interpret the data



Step 5: Use the data



- STP proposal dropped
- Group removed a small dam
- Received grants to plant riparian buffers



Where are they now?



- Struggled with volunteer retention
- Developed a strategic plan 2010
- Monitoring paused at the end of 2013
- Short-term community projects
- Strong partners!

